

**LONG-TERM CARE SUPPORTS AND SERVICES ADVISORY  
COMMISSION  
CAPITOL VIEW - LANSING, MICHIGAN  
MARCH 24, 2008  
MINUTES**

**COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Robert Allison, Rae Bower, RoAnne Chaney, Christine Chesny, Andrew Farmer, Connie Fuller, William Gutos, Yolanda McKinney, Denise Rabidoux, Hollis Turnham, Rev. Charles Williams II, Toni Wilson

**EXCUSED:** Linda Ewing, Dohn Hoyle, William Mania, Jon Reardon,

**EX OFFICIO AND OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Mary Ablan, Peggy Brey, Sharon Gire, Donald Mussen, Sarah Slocum

**I. ORGANIZING OURSELVES**

**A. INTRODUCTIONS** - Farmer introduced the new Commissioner, Rae Bower, and congratulated those who have been re-appointed.

Michael Head announced that he has been appointed the Interim Deputy Director of Mental Health and Substance Abuse and that Peggy Brey will serve as the interim director of the OLTCCS. Mike noted that “interim” means “in the mean time,” not “permanent.” He will continue to be involved in development of the prepaid LTC health plan and long term care budget activities.

Mike provided a brief update on the FY’09 budget process. No boilerplate changes were made in the version reported out by the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee. Advocacy efforts should continue at both the Senate and House.

**B. APPROVAL OF JANUARY MINUTES** - There were no corrections to the minutes. Motion to approve by Turnham, second by Chesny. Motion passed by voice vote.

Since there was no quorum for the February Commission meeting, only notes of the meeting are available. Those in attendance at the February meeting were asked to advise Farmer if any changes are needed.

**C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA** - Farmer added discussion of the Quality Workgroup to the agenda. Motion to approve the agenda, as amended, by Turnham, second by Chaney. Motion passed by voice vote.

**D. REPORT OF CHAIR** - Farmer provided a written Chair's report and indicated that comments should be directed to his attention.

**E. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- **Patricia Anderson, Health Care Association of Michigan** - As co-chair of the Michigan Direct Care Workforce Initiative, she is providing support for the CNA Curriculum. (See Index of Documents)
- **Michelle Munson-McCorry** - As owner of Complete Compassionate Care, she provided testimony regarding the lack of dementia training to direct care workers. (see Index of Documents)
- **Marci Cameron** - Provided documents on dementia training: "Knowledge and Skills Needed for Dementia Care: A Guide for Direct Care Workers" and "A Guide for Direct Care Workers in Everyday Language" may be obtained from the Dementia Coalition at [www.dementiacoalition.org](http://www.dementiacoalition.org). "Developing Meaningful Connections with People with Dementia: A Training Manual" may be obtained by contacting Marci Cameron at [cameronm@michigan.gov](mailto:cameronm@michigan.gov). These items are free.
- **Jean Peters** - Northwest Michigan Council on Governments - supports the CNA curriculum. She also supports adding dementia training to the curriculum. Ms. Peters provided a brochure on her agency's training. (See Index of Documents)

**II. WHAT'S HAPPENING**

**A. 2008 NONPARTISAN ELECTION IMPACT OPPORTUNITIES**

1. **DIVIDED WE FAIL CAMPAIGN** - Steve Gools provided an overview of this campaign effort that includes AARP, Service Employees International Union, National Federation of Independent Businesses, and National Business Roundtable.

They have created a platform of principles (included in the Index of Documents).

Gutos - was Gools hopeful to get the national Senate or House to schedule an open hearing on what health care should be and is there anything we can do to make this happen. Response: This is what Divided We Fail is all about. They are hoping to draft legislation by 2009.

Chesny - Are Michigan businesses involved? Response: General Motors has signed on as a partner and they are working with the Small Business Association. Many Michigan Chapters of national organizations have been involved.

**2. Health Care for Michigan** - Gary Benjamin provided an overview of this initiative which amends the Constitution to require that the Legislature pass laws to make sure that every Michigan resident has affordable and comprehensive health care coverage through a fair and cost effective financing system. Signatures are required by July 7 in order to get the issue on the November ballot. Draft ballot language was provided (see Index of Documents).

Alban - How should she respond to people who do not think this should be in the Constitution? Response: This is already in the Constitution as a fundamental value, basic right.

Chesny - Who does cost efficient financing apply to? Response: This refers to the fragmentation of the system, mainly consumers.

Chesny - There is also concern regarding the vagueness of the draft ballot language. Response: Constitutional language typically is not specific. Specifics are developed through the legislature. It is also a strategy to get stakeholders at the table to work out the specifics and get something done. Also, some principles such as medical necessity are defined elsewhere.

### **III. WHAT DO WE NEED TO DO -**

#### **A. & B. 2008 COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULE -**

- 2008 Schedule - Farmer presented a draft revised 2008 schedule that proposes a full day meeting every other month from 10am to 4pm, with lunch provided. Chesney moved to adopt the revised schedule; Turnham seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.
- July meeting - location was discussed. Motion was made by Turnham to hold the meeting in Grand Rapids at a nursing facility. Chesny seconded. Motion passed by voice vote. Rabidoux will assist in finding a facility. This motion also included a meeting in the Upper Peninsula in 2009, to be further discussed at a future meeting.
- September meeting - Motion was made by Chesny to hold an Election Impact hearing as part of the September meeting in Detroit. Turnham seconded. There is Commission interest in learning how candidates respond to the Task Force recommendations and other long term care issues. The Office will pursue logistics with the Detroit Long-Term Care Connections. Rev. Williams offered his assistance, as well. Motion passed by voice vote.

### **C. DISCUSSION AND ADVOCACY RELATED TO 2009**

**BUDGET** - The legislature anticipates having an approved budget before July 4, so there is little time for the Commission to formulate a position. Turnham made a motion to adopt the draft timelines created by Farmer in his March 17 memorandum (see index of documents), with the following changes on the last page of the memo:

- Step E, change the date to April 10 for the draft position to the Commission for review.
- New Step F, e-mail vote on draft by close of business on April 11. If issues exist, a quick conference call will be scheduled to reach agreement on the final position paper
- Step F, the final position paper issued by Commission on April 12.

Chesny seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.

There was discussion regarding the framework for the position paper. There should be short-term and long-term goals. No cuts in existing funding, but add appropriations to realize the Task Force goals. Any

savings from long-term care should be recycled within long-term care. It was suggested that the Finance Workgroup revise the draft document and add a preamble to delineate the desired framework. Chesny will revise and redistribute for comments.

**D. WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT WORKGROUP** - Turnham provided documents to support the Certified Nurse Assistant curriculum with a request the Commission also provide support, in a future vote. Comments on the suggested curriculum should be sent to Turnham.

**E. PCP WORKGROUP** - Rabidoux requested Commission support of the concepts in HB 5499. She reported that a proposed substitute bill has been withdrawn and that the much stronger original bill still stands. The bill language will be reworked by the House. Commission members expressed a desire that the bill should delineate the rights of the consumer even if a guardian is involved. Chaney moved to adopt the concepts of HB 5499 with second by Turnham. Motion passed by voice vote.

**F. COMMISSION POSITION ON DIVIDED WE FAIL INITIATIVE** - Turnham moved to endorse this initiative. Wilson seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.

**G. COMMISSION POSITION ON HEALTHCARE IN MICHIGAN** - Chaney moved to endorse this initiative. Rev. Williams seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.

**H. QUALITY WORKGROUP** - Slocum and Wilson are the co-chairs of this workgroup. Slocum provided a handout that reiterates the charge to this workgroup. The first meeting will be April 28, at a location to be determined. Commissioners should let Slocum know if they wish to participate on this group.

It was also noted that Wilson is no longer the chair of the Public Education workgroup. Gire and Brey will chair that workgroup.

#### **IV. NEXT STEPS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

##### **A. NEXT MEETING & OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Next meeting is May 19, 10:00 am - 4:00pm, Capitol View Building, Lansing.

- Comments on the budget development framework should be sent to Chesny or Reardon.
- Turnham - Senator George drafted a substitute bill for the Blues, that is better than the original. Hearings should start soon. Public testimony will begin this Wednesday. There is hope to slow down the progress.
- Attendance - Farmer requested that Commissioners adjust their schedules as necessary to ensure availability for work around the Commission meetings to ensure a quorum at each meeting.

**B. ADJOURN** - Chesny moved motion to adjourn. Turnham seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.